

James C. Hagerty, Press Secretary to the President

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THE WHITE HOUSE

TEXT OF THE ADDRESS ON "OUR FUTURE SECURITY", DELIVERED BY THE PRESIDENT AT THE MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM, OKLAHOMA CITY, WEDNESDAY EVENING, 9:30 P.M., CST, NOVEMBER 13, 1957

AS ACTUALLY DELIVERED



Governor Gary, Mayor Street, Distinguished Guests, and My Fellow Americans:

First, I should like to extend my thanks to the people of Oklahoma for this chance to share in celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of Oklahoma's statehood.

Born in the Lone Star State just to your south, and reared in the Sunflower State just to the north, I have tonight a fine feeling of coming home again.

So your generous welcome has a special significance for me tonight. Frankly, I wish I could stay until Saturday. From all my friends this afternoon I have heard you have a pretty fair sort of football team. And of course I should very much like to see it play.

I am going to let you in on a secret. No matter how good it was before, since this afternoon when they made my grandson sort of an honorary member, it is a much better team. He is now the proud possessor of a white football signed by Bud Wilkinson and all his players, and my "son" is the best ninety-pound tackle in the whole country.

Last week I spoke of science in security; this evening I speak of security in a somewhat wider context.

We live in one of the great ages in the story of mankind.

For millions of people science has removed the burden of backbreaking toil.

For other millions the hope of a good life is being translated into definite promise.

In this wonderful age, we Americans have a special responsibility. We were given a fresh continent and an opportunity to work out a modern dream of how men should work together, live together, and govern themselves.

Drawing on all the cultures of the past, and on the rapid growth of science, we worked out a way in which every person can be his own competitive self, and at the same time be a dedicated member of a harmonious community.

Now this week the Soviets are celebrating the 40th anniversary of their revolution. These four decades have seen them change from an agricultural to an industrial nation. We know of their rigorous educational system and their technological achievements.